

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

EA-07 FRB-03 INR-07 IO-13 NEA-10 NSAE-00 USIA-06

OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01

STR-04 AGR-05 ITC-01 AF-08 ARA-06 /108 W

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P R 081028Z JUL 76

FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASH DC PRIORITY 2786

INFO ALL OECD CAPITALS 0349

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PASS AID/PPC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, EFIN, OECD, CIEC

SUBJECT: JULY 5 MEETING OF NORTH/SOUTH GROUP

1. SUMMARY: IN TWO AND ONE-HALF HOUR SESSION, NORTH/
SOUTH GROUP HAD SHORT DISCUSSION OF UNCTAD IV AND FUTURE
WORK PROGRAM FOR CIEC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION. THERE WAS
GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT COORDINATION SHOULD BE IMPROVED
THROUGH BETTER CONSULTATION ON ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED IN
DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION AND ELSEWHERE. U.S. DEL (ALBRECHT)
INDICATED THAT WE WILL PROPOSE DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
CONCENTRATE UPON FOOD AND AGRICULTURE, TRANSFER OF
RESOURCES AND INDUSTRIAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION.
SWEDEN FELT TOP PRIORITY SHOULD BE GIVEN TO RESOURCE
TRANSFER ISSUES, INCLUDING DEBT RELIEF. EC FOUND CO-
CHAIRMEN'S DRAFT AGENDA BASICALLY ACCEPTABLE WITH MINOR
AMENDMENTS. CHAIRMAN ASKED FOR DISCUSSION OF DEBT, BUT
COMMENTS WERE BRIEF SINCE DELS PREFERRED TO LEAVE ISSUES
FOR TWP TO DISCUSS. THERE WAS AGREEMENT THAT PRESSURE
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SHOULD BE MAINTAINED ON OPEC COUNTRIES TO INCREASE CON-

TRIBUTION TO IFAD. GROUP WILL MEET AGAIN SEPTEMBER 10
PRIOR TO CIEC SESSION. END SUMMARY.

2. REVIEW OF UNCTAD IV: THIS ITEM WAS ON AGENDA SINCE
SOME DELEGATES DID NOT HAVE CHANCE AT LAST MEETING TO
COMMENT ON UNCTAD IV, WHICH HAD JUST CONCLUDED. U.S.
WAS ONLY DEL TO COMMENT EXTENSIVELY. NOTED CONFERENCE
HAD BEEN GENERALLY SUCCESSFUL AND CONSTRUCTIVE ATMOSPHERE
OF DIALOGUE HAD BEEN MAINTAINED. MANY CONTENTIOUS
POLITICAL THEMES WERE AVOIDED IN RESOLUTIONS WHICH INCOR-
PORATED ELEMENTS FROM BOTH G-77 AND GROUP B PROPOSALS.
U.S. DEL NOTED FULL SCHEDULE OF CONSULTATIONS ON COM-
MODITIES AHEAD AND INDICATED U.S. WILL PARTICIPATE FULLY
IN THESE CONSULTATIONS DESPITE FACT WE WOULD HAVE PRE-
FERRED COMMODITY-BY-COMMODITY DISCUSSIONS. U.S. DEL
WELCOMED TWO RESOLUTIONS DEALING WITH TRANSFER OF TECH-
NOLOGY AND NOTED SATISFACTION WITH CONSENSUS REACHED ON
MEASURES TO IMPROVE EFFECTIVENESS OF UNCTAD WITHIN ITS
EXISTING MANDATE. VOTE ON IRB PROPOSAL WAS DISAPPOINTING
BUT WE WERE CONTINUING TO PURSUE IT AND WELCOMED INTEREST
EXPRESSED IN IT. U.S. DEL CLOSED BY CALLING FOR IMPROVED
CONSULTATION AS CIEC PROCEEDS IN INTEREST OF GREATER DC
HARMONY ON NORTH/SOUTH ISSUES.

3. DUTCH, SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF EC, CALLED FOR EARNEST
NEGOTIATIONS IN FUTURE IN LIMITED NUMBER OF PROMISING
AREAS. FRANCE REMINDED GROUP THAT UNCTAD COMMODITIES
RESOLUTION WAS POINT OF DEPARTURE ONLY AND AUSTRIA
SUPPORTED CALL FOR COORDINATED POSITIONS ON COMMODITY
ISSUES. CHAIRMAN CONCLUDED DISCUSSION BY NOTING IMPORT-
ANCE OF UNCTAD IV AND DESIRE FOR PROGRESS IN CIEC. HE
CALLED FOR IMPROVEMENT OF CONSULTATION IN NORTH/SOUTH
GROUP AND OTHER OECD BODIES ON SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES TO BE
DISCUSSED IN CIEC.

4. PREPARATIONS FOR JULY MEETING OF DEVELOPMENT COM-
MISSION: THREE OF FIVE PARTICIPANTS IN DEVELOPMENT
COMMISSION GAVE THEIR VIEWS ON ITS FUTURE WORK PROGRAM.
U.S. EMPHASIZED THAT AREAS OF CONCENTRATION DURING
SECOND PHASE MUST BE LIMITED IF ANY PROGRESS IS TO BE
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MADE. THREE AREAS MOST AMENABLE TO CONSTRUCTIVE DIS-
CUSSION ARE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE, TRANSFER OF RESOURCES,
AND INDUSTRIAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION. LATTER
TOPIC WOULD INCLUDE INTER ALIA ISSUES IN AREAS OF
INVESTMENT/MNC'S, TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY, AND POSSIBLY
CERTAIN TRADE ASPECTS. U.S. RECALLED DECISION THAT AT
JULY COMMISSION SESSIONS THERE SHOULD BE NO SUBSTANTIVE
DISCUSSIONS OF SPECIFIC ISSUES AND REITERATED U.S. COM-

MITMENT TO SERIOUS EFFORTS DURING SECOND HALF OF CIEC
AND CLOSE COOPERATION AMONG G-8. SWEDEN FELT TRANSFER
OF RESOURCE ISSUES, INCLUDING DEBT RELIEF AND IMPROVING
THE VOLUME AND QUALITY OF ODA FLOWS, SHOULD BE TOP
PRIORITY FOR COMMISSION DURING PHASE-TWO. EC (DUTCH)
TENDE TO ACCEPT LIST OF TOPICS PUT FORWARD BY AIT-
CHALLAL ON HIS AND WELLENSTEIN'S BEHALF AT JUNE CO-

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CHAIRMEN'S MEETING. HE COMMENTED THAT EC WOULD WANT TO
DELETE REFERENCE TO SDR LINK AND MODIFY SUB-TOPICS UNDER
INVESTMENT TO REFER TO ROLE OF QUOTE OPERATORS UNQUOTE,
THE EC TERM FOR GOVERNMENT-OWNED AND PRIVATE ENTERPRISES.
DUTCH DEL ALSO MENTIONED IIMPORTANCE OF DEBT ISSUE.
CANADA AND JAPAN HAD NOTHING NEW TO SAY ABOUT WORK PRO-
GRAM. AMONG NON-PARTICIPANTS IN COMMISSION, SWITZERLAND
AND NEW ZEALAND GAVE GENERAL SUPPORT TO TOPICS ON CO-
CHAIRMEN'S LIST. CHAIRMAN CONCLUDED THAT
THERE WAS CONSENSUS THAT MEMBERS SHOULD CLOSELY CONSULT

DURING SECOND PHASE OF DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION. HE CALLED FOR AN ACTIVE EXCHANGE OF VIEWS IN NORTH/SOUTH GROUP ON ISSUES WHERE DC UNITY DESIRABLE.

5. CHAIRMAN REQUESTED DISCUSSION OF DEBT ISSUES, BUT SINCE DAC HAD JUST DISCUSSED TOPIC JULY 1 AND TWP SCHEDULED TO GO INTO DETAILS JULY 8-9, DELEGATES HAD LITTLE TO SAY. U.S. TOOK OPPORTUNITY TO INDICATE THAT DEBT WAS EXAMPLE OF ISSUE ON WHICH U.S. HAD CONSULTED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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OTHER MEMBERS EARLY BY CABLING OUR EMBASSIES AND OUT-LINING OUR POSITION FAR IN ADVANCE OF TWP MEETING. THIS HAD ALSO HELPED CLARIFY ISSUES AT DAC MEETING. NOTING THAT THERE SEEMED TO BE CONSENSUS EMERGING THAT TWO TYPES OF DEBT SITUATIONS SHOULD BE DISTINGUISHED, U.S. DEL WENT ON TO INDICATE THAT SUMMARY RECORD OF DAC MEETING CIRCULATED BY SECRETARIAT WAS INACCURATE AND PRE-MATURE SINCE NO FINAL PROCEDURAL DECISION ON HOW TO HANDLE DEBT IN OECD PREPARATION FOR CIEC HAD YET BEEN MADE. EC SAID ONLY THAT ITS FINAL POSITION ON BOTH PROCEDURE AND SUBSTANCE HAD NOT YET BEEN AGREED AMONG NINE. FRANCE NOTED DAC DISCUSSION WAS PRELIMINARY. CANADA HOPED FOR OPEN DISCUSSION IN TWP. CHAIRMAN CONCLUDED SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION WOULD BE LEFT TO TWP AND THAT MEMBERS WOULD LOBBY AGAINST BEGINNING CONSIDERATION OF DEBT AT JULY CIEC SESSION.

6. CHAIRMAN ASKED FOR PREFERENCE OF NON-EUROPEAN DELEGATES FOR DATE OF NEXT MEETING, AND CANADA AND JAPAN SUPPORTED U.S. SUGGESTION OF SEPTEMBER 10 PRIOR TO CIEC SESSIONS (SEPTEMBER 13-20).
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